

Sears Point to Mare Island Improvement Project

Hearing to Receive Public Comments on Proposed Tolling

California Transportation Commission

April 24, 2023



“ONE CORRIDOR, ONE TEAM, MANY SOLUTIONS.”



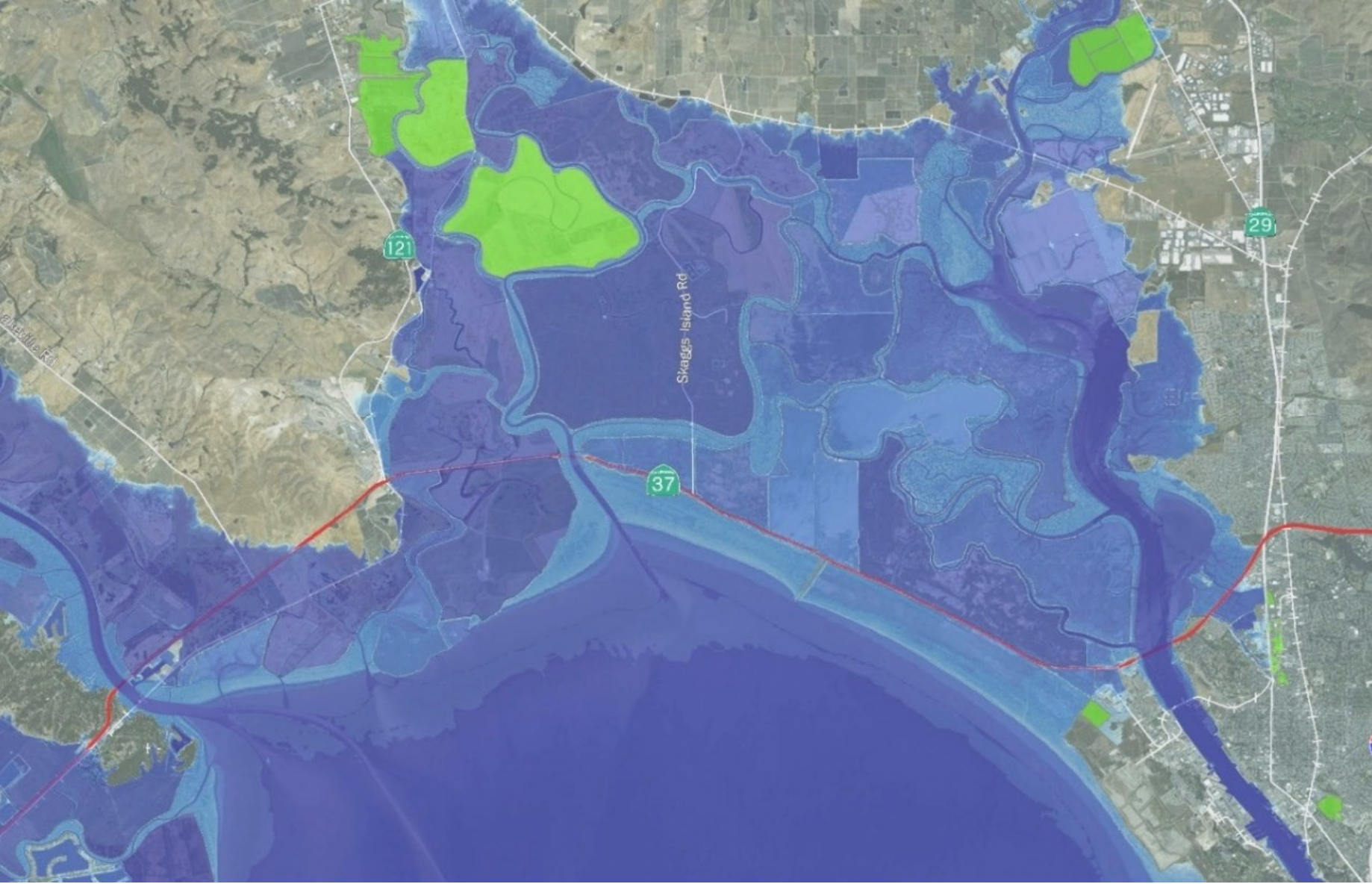


Public Comments on Proposed Toll Facility on State Route 37

The Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority (BAIFA) is applying to operate a **toll facility on State Route 37 in Solano and Sonoma Counties** under Streets and Highways Code Section 149.7, as amended by Assembly Bill (AB) 194.

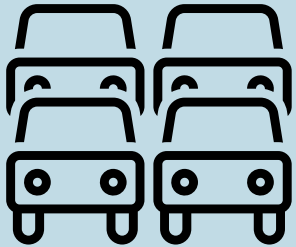


Why Tolling?





Tolling Saves Drivers Time- Project Benefits Outweigh Project Costs



Reduce Congested Travel Times

- Eastbound PM:
from 100 minutes to 26 minutes
- Westbound AM:
from 60 minutes to 30 minutes



Traveler Benefits from Delay Time Saved

- Opening Year (2027):
\$85M Annually
- In 5 Years (2027–2032):
\$578M Total *
- Reduces Vehicle Miles Traveled



* Note: Traveler delays- without the project- are projected to increase over time with increased traffic demand. These benefits compare to project costs of approximately \$430 million.



- **Resilient SR 37 Corridor**
- **Project Description**
- **Project Benefits**
- **AB 194 Requirements**

Highway 37: Regionally Significant 21-Mile East-West Corridor



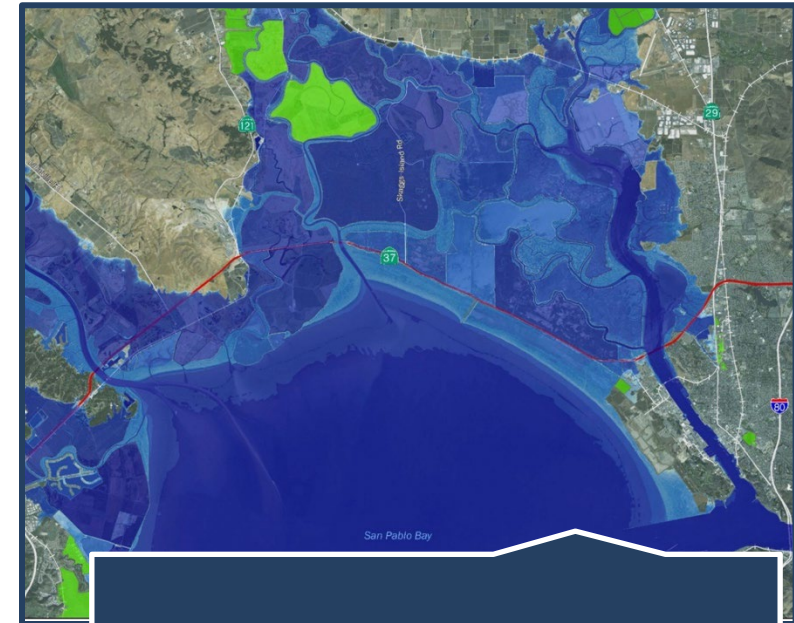
Corridor Challenges



Congestion



Flooding



Sea Level Rise

Deliver a Corridor Program that Provides Community Benefits for All

SEA LEVEL RISE ADAPTATION



Improve resiliency of transportation infrastructure to sea level rise and flooding

MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION



Improve traffic flow and peak travel times by relieving congestion and increasing person throughput

EQUITY



Enhance the quality of life for residents and build stronger local and regional economy for all

ECOLOGY



Restore ecological and hydrologic flows to enhance productivity of wetlands and Baylands

PUBLIC ACCESS



Provide accommodation for multimodal use and facilitate public access to natural resources

Resilient State Route 37 Program: Phased Implementation Concurrent Project Development. Deliver Early Community Benefits.

Environmental - Design - Construction

Sears Point to Mare Island Improvement

- Address Equity
- Improve Travel Times and Reliability
- Support Transit and Carpool Prioritization
- Advance Baylands Restoration
- Enhance Resilience and Public Access

Early Benefits



Transition

SR 37 Sea Level Rise Adaptation (I-80 – US 101)

- Long Term Corridor Resilience (Planning and Environmental Linkages Study)
- Multiple Project Implementation (Flood Reduction Project – 101 to Atherton)
- Equity, Bike, Pedestrian, Transit, and Public Access
- Advance Mitigation

RESILIENTSR37



Today

2027

2040

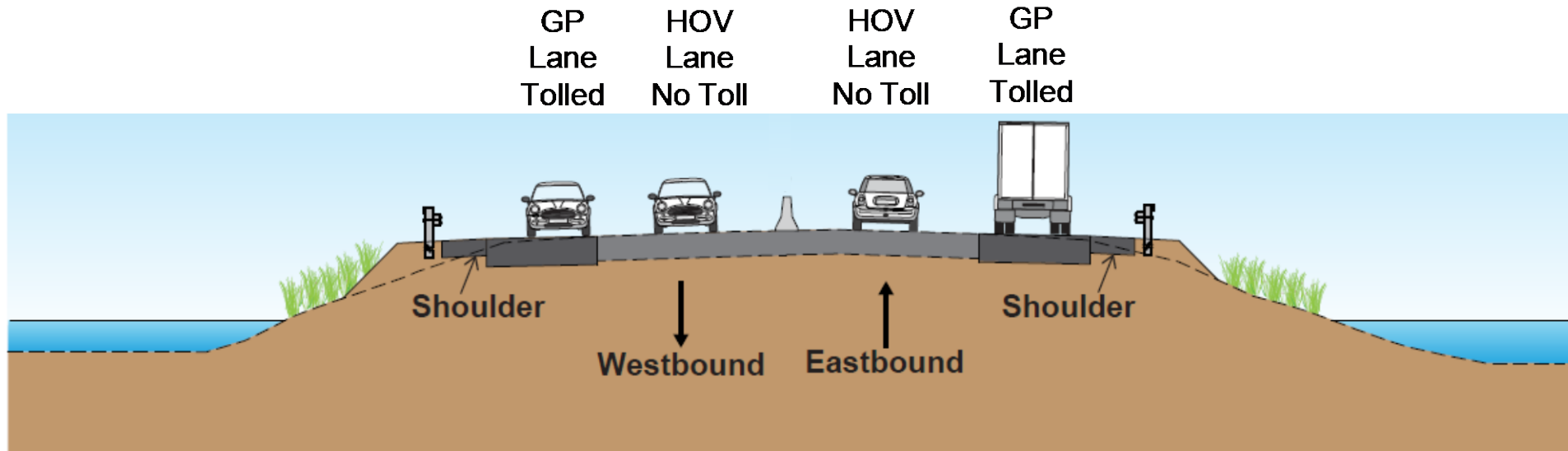
2050



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Project Components

- HOV Lanes
- Bus Transit Service
- Public Access Improvements
- ITS Improvements
- Ecological Resilience
- Implementation of Tolling *
 - Provide Necessary Funding For This Project
 - Manage Traffic Demand and Vehicle Miles Travelled (VMT)

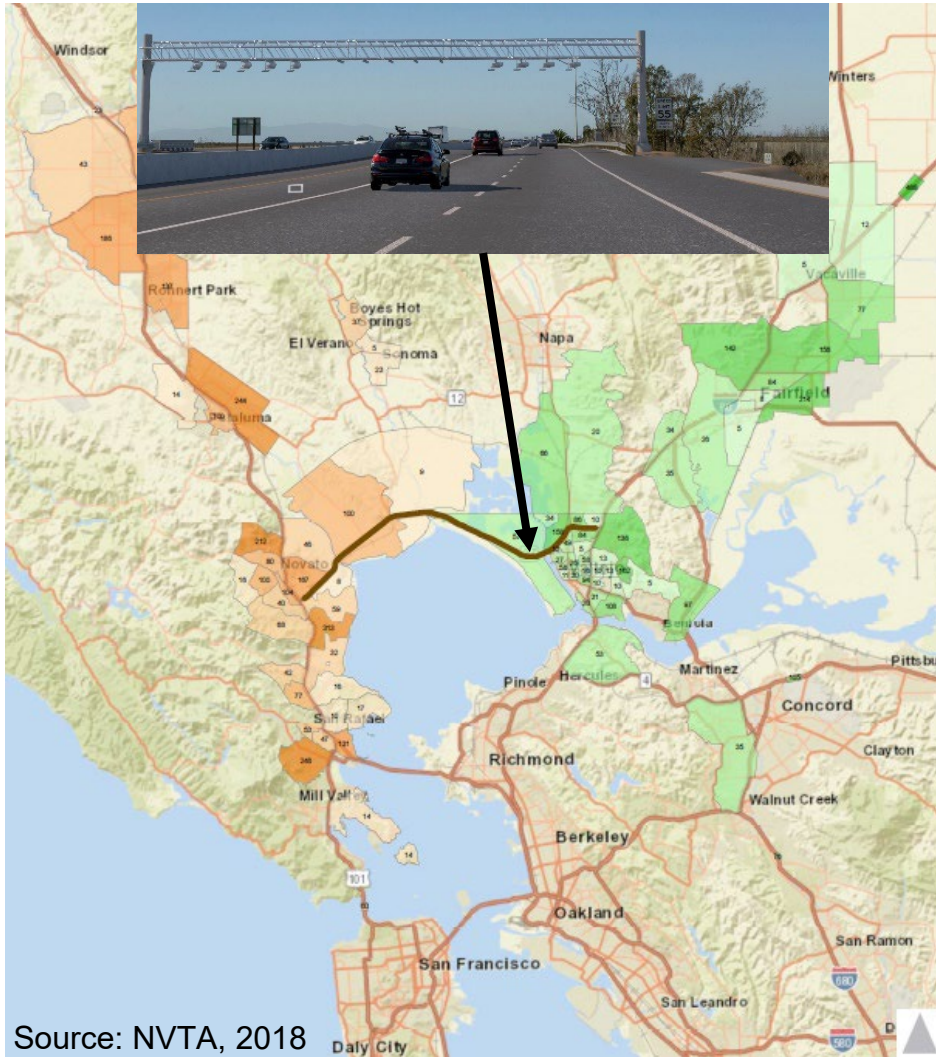


* Approval is required from the California Transportation Commission for tolling authority.



SR 37 Corridor Travelers and Toll Gantry Locations

Westbound Traffic



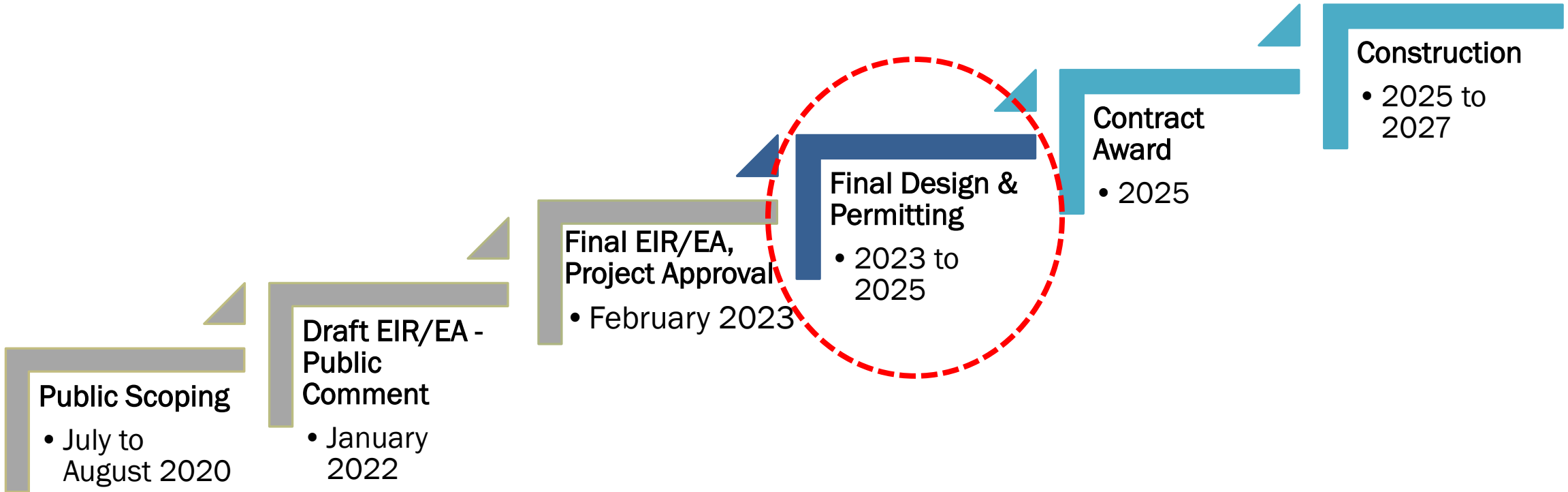
Source: NVTA, 2018

Eastbound Traffic



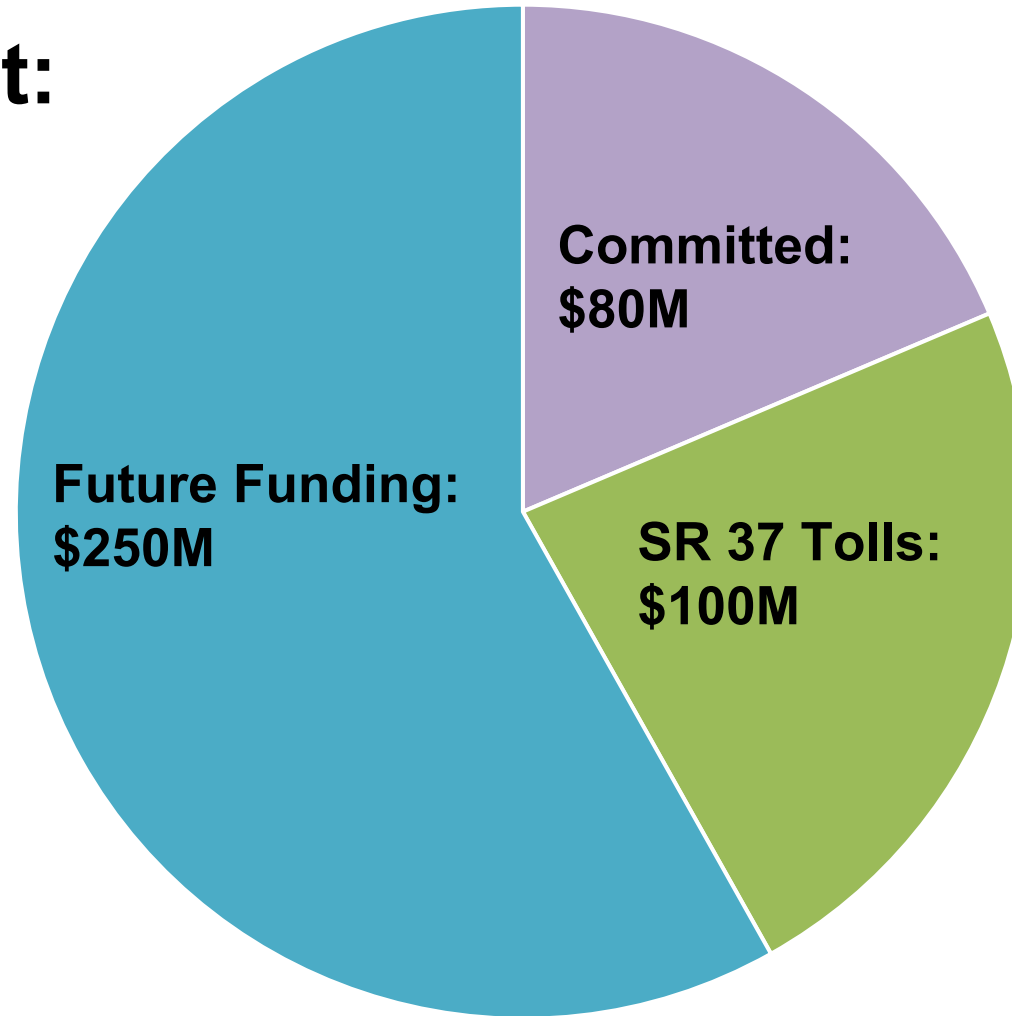
Origin
Destination

Project Timeline



Project Funding Plan

**Total Project Cost:
\$430M**



* Total project cost is currently estimated at \$430 million. The project cost and funding plan are subject to change.

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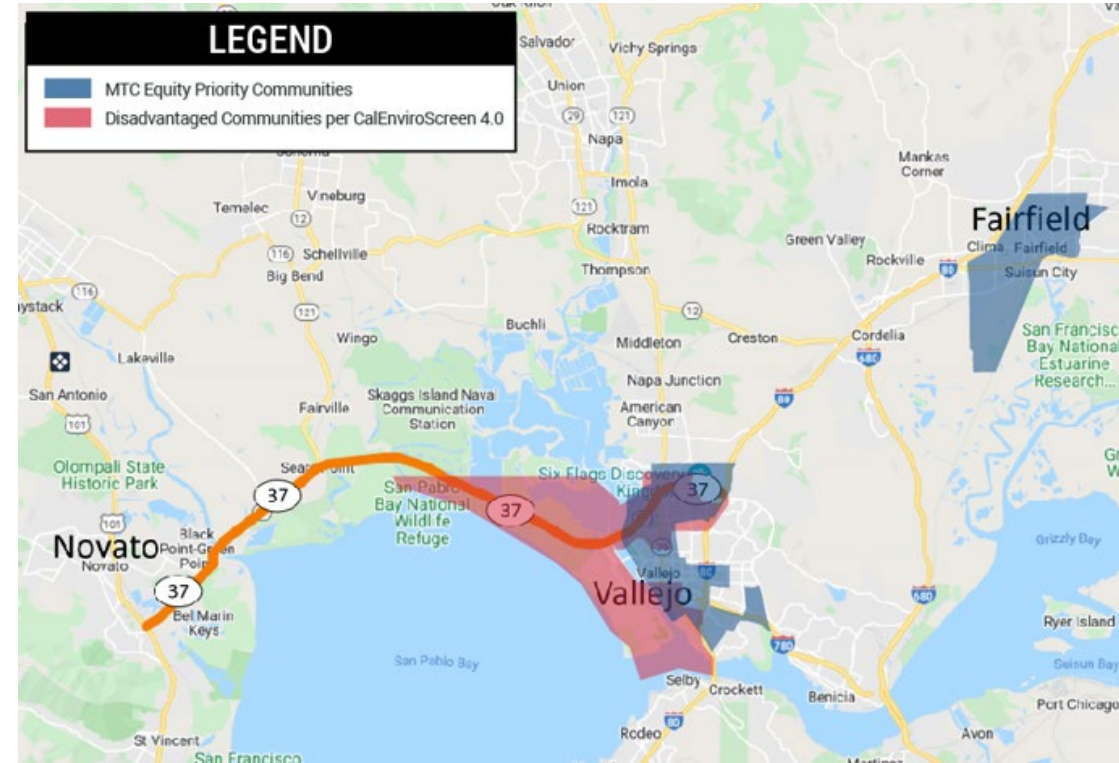


Corridor Equity Considerations

Majority of SR-37 travelers are Solano County residents who access jobs in Marin and Sonoma Counties

- **40% of trips are from low-income individuals**
- **28% of trips are from minority groups**

Equity Priority Communities and Disadvantaged Communities in Vallejo and Fairfield, near SR-37



85% of SR-37 travelers household incomes < AMI (compared to 38% of all Bay Area freeway users)



Delivering Transportation Equity

Congestion Relief

Immediate congestion relief for SR-37 travelers, reduced travel times, access to jobs, economic vitality Mare Island

New Bus Transit Option

From Vallejo to San Rafael

Toll Discounts

For low-income households

Improved Public Access

Trail connections/enhancements



Consistent with Existing Bay Area Equity Programs

Tolling Equity Discount Program/ Other Regional Initiatives

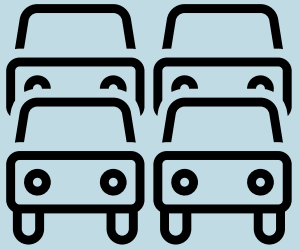
- I-880 Express Lanes START
- Clipper® START
- Bay Area Toll Authority’s Equity Action Plan

Community Engagement and Public Communication Plan

- Community Based Organizations —
All 4 North Bay Counties
- Social/Traditional Media- English, Spanish,
Tagalog



Congestion Relief- Project Benefits Outweigh Project Costs



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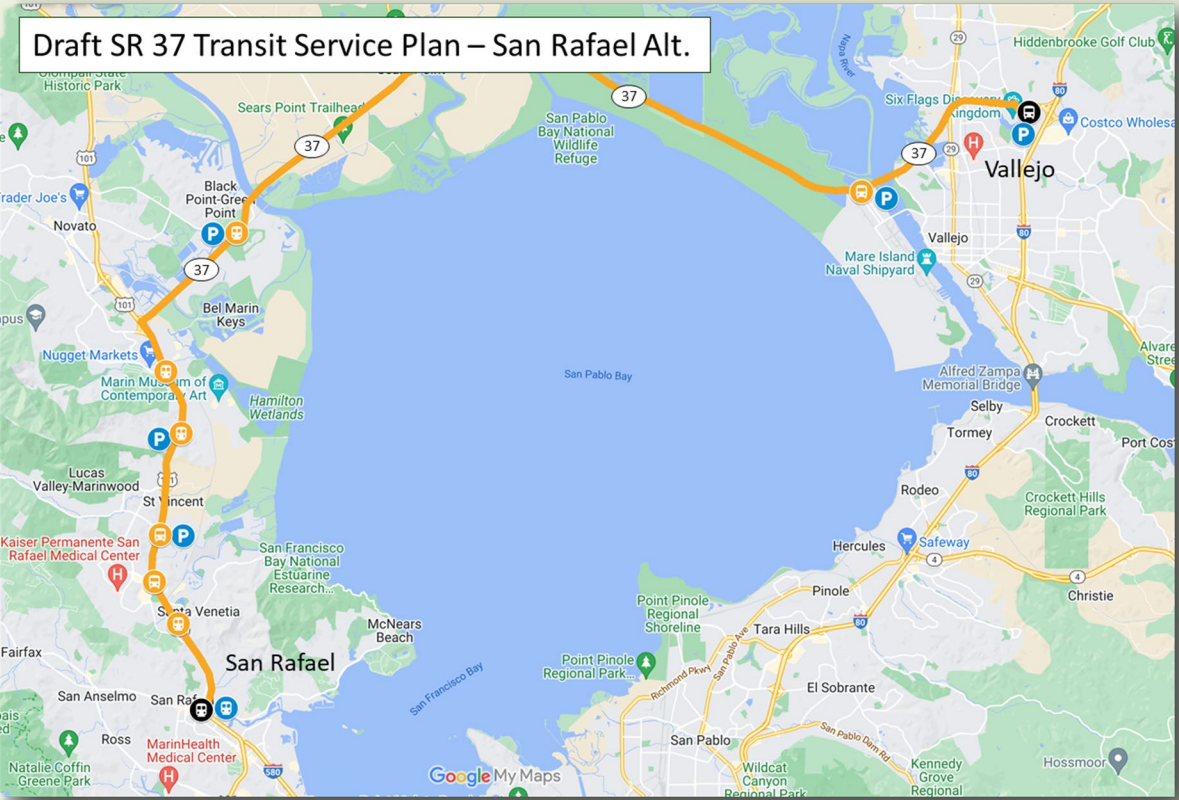
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SR 37 Transit and Rideshare Implementation Plan

Transit Service – Novato/San Rafael Options

- **Weekday all-day SolanoExpress** service between Vallejo Fairgrounds and Novato.
- **Future SR 37 HOV** operation will make transit faster and reliable.



Mobility Hubs



Park and Ride



First/Last Mile Mobility-on-Demand



Ridesharing Platform



SR 37 Transit and Rideshare Implementation Plan – Proposed Service

| Weekdays | Vallejo-Novato | Vallejo-San Rafael |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Hours of Operation | 5 AM to 9 PM | 5 AM to 9 PM |
| Frequency | 30 mins peak/ 60 mins off-peak | 30 mins peak/ 60 mins off-peak |
| One-Way Trips | 48 | 48 |
| Peak Bus Requirement | 4 | 5 |
| Total Bus Requirement with 20% Spares | 5 | 6 |



Project to Enhance Public Access: e.g., Sears Point Bay Trail Connector



Project to Enhance Public Access: e.g., City of Vallejo

In 2019 Public Access Study – Solano Transportation Authority identified public access projects near SR-37.

- The study identified 13 projects.
- In 2021, the City of Vallejo identified local community priorities.



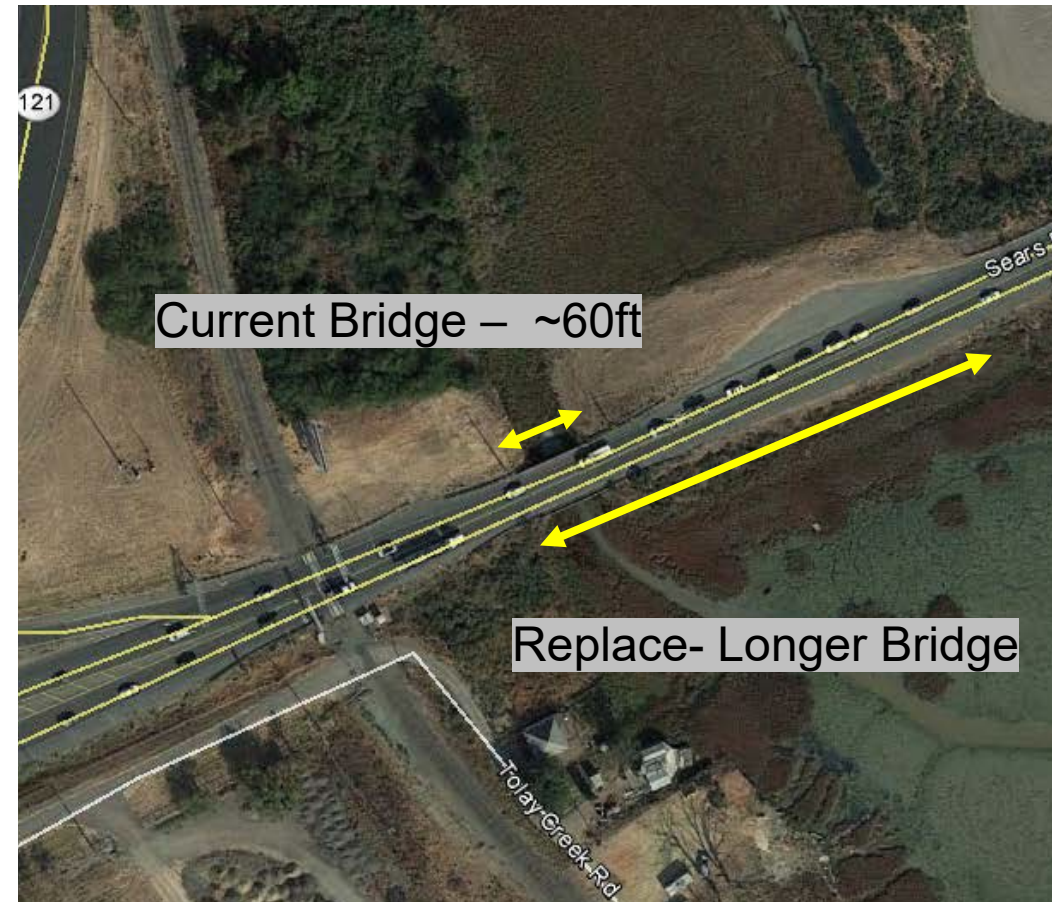


Transportation & Ecological Resilience Phased Adaptation Strategy

Strip Marsh East



Tolay Creek



Public Outreach to Date

State Route 37 Policy Committee Public Meetings

- On-Going Public Meetings Since 2015 (Occurs Approximately Every Quarter)
- Elected Officials from Sonoma, Marin, Napa and Solano Counties
- Supported by Executive Directors from MTC/BAIFA, Caltrans, STA, SCTA, TAM and NVTA

Public Outreach in 2017 – 2018

- Open Houses, Online Survey, Focused Group Meetings
- Tolling on SR 37 Was Discussed

SR 37 Sears Point to Mare Island Improvement Project EIR/EA

- Public Scoping Meeting- July 9 and Aug 24, 2020
- Public Meeting on Draft EIR/EA- Feb 2, 2022
- Public Comments Received on Draft EIR/EA- Jan 13- Feb 28, 2022
- Proposed Tolling on SR 37 Was Included and Evaluated in the EIR/EA
- Final EIR/EA- Approved Feb 8, 2023

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AB 194 Requirements and Minimum Eligibility Criteria

The proposed SR 37 toll facility meets Streets and Highways Code Section 149.7:

- The proposed toll facility will improve the corridor’s performance
- The project is in the constrained portion of a Regional Transportation Plan, prepared pursuant to Section 65080 of the Government Code.
- Caltrans, MTC/BAIFA, SCTA, STA, NVTA, and TAM have cooperatively developed the project
- A 2016 Project Study Report/Project Development Support is the Project Initiation Document
- The Plans, Specifications and Estimate and a Concept of Operations are being developed

Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority (BAIFA) as Applicant for CTC Tolling Application

BAIFA will serve as SR 37 tolling authority, in consultation with the SR 37 Policy Committee

- Approve toll rates, including discounts
- Toll rates consistent with Bay Area toll bridges
- Adopt toll ordinance (toll violations)
- Deliver, operate & maintain toll system
- Direct toll revenue: O&M, near-term and long-term projects, other eligible corridor expenses

Other BAIFA Responsibilities Include:

- **Express Lanes**
 - Provide a forum that facilitates seamless regional tolling and network planning through coordinated policy and strategic planning (advisory)
 - Deliver and operate MTC's express lane network in Alameda, Contra Costa and Solano counties (authorized by CTC)
- **Regional Transportation Conduit Financing, e.g., BART car replacement**

Other Ways to Stay Engaged with Project Development

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- Resilient 37 and Caltrans Program Websites:
 - <https://Resilient37.org>
 - <http://sr37corridorprojects.com>
- Future State Route 37 Policy Committee Meetings
 - <https://scta.ca.gov/projects/highway37/#meetings--events>
- Future BAIFA Committee Meetings
 - <https://mtc.ca.gov/meetings-events?committee=61266&type=All>